PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/579,654

Filing Date: May 18, 2006

Applicant: Paul Meredith et al.

Group Art Unit: 1794

Confirmation No.: 9357

Examiner: Ling X. Xu

Title: Silica Films and Method of Production Thereof

Attorney Docket: 6106-000006/US/NP

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, please consider the following.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.